

NOTICE TO CANDIDATES IN THE UPCOMING ELECTION OF THE CITY OF TEMPE

Our City has recently learned of a change in interpretation by the Arizona Secretary of State of the new campaign finance laws passed during the 2014 legislative session. The change affects those candidates filing a \$500 threshold exemption statement as well as those claiming a \$250 exemption. The exemptions now apply to the combination of the primary and general, not to each election. This means that to qualify for the \$500 threshold exemption you are restricted to spending or receiving contributions of \$500 or less for the total election period and the same applies to those claiming the \$250 exemption. Separate accounting for each election is also not required.

If you exceed the \$500 threshold you must file a statement of organization with my office within 5 business days of exceeding the \$500. For those claiming a \$250 exemption, if you exceed the \$250 you must file either a \$500 threshold exemption or a statement of organization.

You can continue to use the forms provided to you for the \$500 threshold exemption statement. If you filed a form for the primary election and do not expend \$500 or more during the primary and general elections, then you only need to file the form again by the deadline noted with the termination information which appears at the bottom of the form. If you filed forms for both the primary and general, you can fill out the termination on either form and file it with me.

Arizona's campaign finance laws are complex and interpretation of them depends on many factors including court decisions. If the courts have not spoken on an issue, the Tempe City Clerk's Office will follow the interpretation provided by the Arizona Secretary of State; however, final interpretation is up to the courts. The City of Tempe can provide no assurance of what final interpretation of these laws may be provided by the courts. We hope this notice explains the current interpretation to you. Please let my office know if there are questions.

Brigitta M. Kuiper

City Clerk of Tempe